

First, please let me thank you for serving your state, I know that it is a thankless job, with little compensation.

I am writing to urge you to not support SB1076.

I am a firearm owner. I am also a practicing attorney, father, member of town commissions, and Elk and a Rotarian. I have never been arrested, nor committed a crime. Last year I was hired as a peace officer.

When I bought a handgun, I researched the various types, sizes, and manufacturers. I finally choose a handgun that accepts 15 rounds. It does not have any higher capacity magazine option, just 15 rounds. Many less than many other guns.

To me, common sense holds that the number of rounds a handgun is designed for, is standard capacity. High Capacity would be some number more than that. We could limit the number of automobile deaths annually by limiting the size and capacity of gas tanks. But we don't. We recognize that the number of gallons designed to be held by an automobile is the standard number. And we prohibit adding external tanks, or additional tanks in the trunk. Limit magazine size to the number of rounds designed by the manufacturer to fit within the handgrip of a pistol.

Why would you prohibit body armor? It is a defensive item, that cannot be used for offense. I understand that it may be used to assist in the commission of a crime, but so can anything. Cars are used to aid in drive-bys. Lead weighted football gloves are used to assist in beatings. Neoprene face masks are used to assist in muggings. But none get banned. Body armor has a legitimate purpose. A cold fact is that we cannot prevent another school shooting. And if I want to buy my daughters a Kevlar lined backpack, as a small way of trying to increase their safety, do you believe that should be a felony? Do you believe my daughters should not have the right to try to protect themselves? I represent children in DCF abuse cases. Every day I go into the worst neighborhoods in Hartford, New Haven and New Britain to visit them and be sure they are safe. I go into neighborhoods alone that the police only go into in pairs. And I do it unarmed. Do you believe I should not have the ability to protect myself from being shot? Perhaps a compromise could be to make possession of body armor by someone ineligible for a permit to possess a firearm a felony.

The registration of firearms sections will cripple the State Police systems. The system cannot handle the number of people trying to purchase firearms today. Imagine 3,000,000 people going into register firearms, many of who have multiple firearms. How will we fund the infrastructure requirements, when we can barely afford the infrastructure we have. Additionally, requiring me to surrender my firearms to the State if I do not pass the registration criteria would seem to be a taking, in violation of the takings clause to the US Constitution.

I understand the goal, especially in light of the tragedy in Newtown. However, in order to be effective, the law must actually have some deterrent value. Those that follow laws, and abide by them, are usually not the ones who would commit the criminal acts sought to be deterred here. The irony here is that while I, along with most other law abiding handgun owners, would follow the law, and surrender our magazines and body armor, and register our firearms, criminals would

not. A criminal, intent on breaking the law, would not put away the handgun he was going to rob the store with simply because it held 15 rounds in violation of the statutes. Or decide to not commit murder with a handgun because it was not registered. The statute therefore becomes nothing more than a feel good regulation, without actually improving public safety at all.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and I hope you sincerely consider not passing the act at all, but if you do believe it necessary, please consider the changes suggested above.

Sincerely yours

Thomas Babson Kane
860-338-3471

Thomas Babson Kane
Kane, Hartley & Kane, P.C.
972 New London Turnpike
Glastonbury, CT 06033
www.glastonburylaw.com
Office: 860-633-3651
Cell: 860-338-3471
Fax: 860-657-9159